

Canine Health Care Standards and Recommendation

**Puppy Stage:Birth to First Year**

* **Vaccines:**
* **Multivalent "Distemper" & Parvovirus**: Boosters required every 3 weeks; Starting at 8 weeks up to 20 weeks. Repeated annually
* **Rabies:** Legally required at 16 weeks of age. Repeated 1 year later
* **Leptosporosis:** Two boosters before 24 weeks. Repeated annually.
* **Bordetella** (Kennel Cough): Two boosters by 16 weeks. Repeat annually.
* **Parasite Prevention & Control:** Intestinal Parasites: 2 to 4 doses of an appropriate dewormer before 16 weeks. Repeat annually.
* **Fecal Examinations:** Two stool samples checked before 16 weeks.
* **Flea & Tick Control:** Monthly applications after 8-9 weeks.
* **Heartworm Test and Control:** Oral or topical prevention given monthly after 12 weeks.
* **Spaying or Neutering:** Generally between 5 to 6 months. All females should be spayed prior to first heat.
* **Blood Screening:** Recommended at time of spay or neuter.

**Adult/Mature: 1st year and Beyond:**

* **Vaccines:**
* **Multivalent "Distemper" & Parvovirus:** Booster required every 3rd year.
* **Rabies:** Repeated one year after puppy booster. Legally required every 3rd year.
* **Leptosporosis:** Annually (Optional but strongly recommended).
* **Bordetella (Kennel Cough):** Booster every 6 to 12 months (Optional but strongly recommended).
* **Parasite Prevention & Control:** Intestinal Parasites dewormer. Repeated annually.
* **Fecal Examinations:** Repeated 6-12 months.
* **Flea & Tick Control:** Monthly applications for life.
* **Heartworm Test and Control**: Oral or topical prevention monthly for life; Annual testing to confirm effectiveness. .
* **Blood and Blood Pressure Screening:** Every 1 to 3 years. More frequently if medically necessary.

**Senior Years:** 8 years and Beyond:

* **Blood and Blood Pressure Screening:** Every 6 to 12 months. More frequently if medically necessary.
* **X-Rays / Ultrasound Screening**: Whole body imaging after 8-10 years of age.